MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

NR Eligible:	yes
	no

Property Name: Glenmont Commercial and Civic District Inventory Number: M:31-30
12251-12361 Georgia Avenue and 2300- Silver Spring (Glenmont
Address: 2301 Randolph Road City: Vicinity) Zip Code:
County: Montgomery USGS Topographic Map: Kensington
Owner: Various
Tax Parcel Number: Tax Map Number: JQ13 Tax Account ID Number:
Project: MD 97 (Georgia Avenue) at Randolph Road Agency: FHWA/SHA
Site visit by MHT Staff: X no yes Name: Date:
Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: XABXCDD Considerations: ABCDDEFXG
Is the property located within a historic district? X noyes Name of district:
Is district listed?noyes Determined eligible?noyes District Inventory Number:
Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance Files
Faken together, these buildings represent the development of the Glenmont area in a ten-year period from 1953 through 1963. Because there was no single guiding plan, but several independent visions of how the buildings should relate to one another, the Glenmont Commercial and Civic District does not form a cohesive unit. The district was constructed in response to the residential developments west and east of the Georgia Avenue and Randolph Road intersection. However, the advertising iterature for the Glenmont Village does not mention that a commercial area is easily available or planned as part of the nousing development. While the Glenmont Commercial and Civic District contain examples of early 1960s roadside architecture, the entire district cannot be characterized as a model of a new suburban town. Thus Glenmont is not a stand-alone example of suburban development (Criterion A, history of Post-World War II suburban development), nor is its architecture so exemplary that it meets the requirements for architecture (Criterion C – architecture). Furthermore, because the buildings are ess than fifty years of age, Criterion Consideration G, Properties That Have Achieved Significance Within The Past Fifty Years, must also be considered. Unknown architects designed the buildings in the Glenmont Shopping Center Arcade and the Glenmont Auto Service station; while the police and fire stations were designed by architects of local significance. Because the District lacks significance under Criteria A or C or Criterion Consideration G of the National Register of Historic Places, it is not eligible for inclusion in the National Register. Prepared by: Anne E. Bruder, M.Arch.H., SHA Date Prepared: October 9, 2001
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW
Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommendedX
Criteria:ABCD Considerations:ABCDEFGNone Comments:
1 -entered
that day the
//Movew Lews 11/13/01
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services
Reviewer, NR program Date

Inventory No. M:31-30

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

 Name of F 	Property	(indicate preferred na	me)		
historic	Glenmont Com	mercial and Civic District			
other					
2. Location					
street and number	12251-12361 G	eorgia Avenue and 2300-2301	l Randolph Road	r	not for publication
city, town	Silver Spring (C	Glenmont Vicinity), Maryland		<u>X</u> _ \	vicinity
county	Montgomery				
3. Owner of	Property	(give names and mailing a	addresses of all owners)		
name	Various, see co	ntinuation sheet, Item #3			
street and number				telephone	
city, town			state	zip code	
4. Location	of Legal D	escription			
		Montgomery County Courthor	use liber	folio	
city, town	Rockville, MD	tax map JQ13		tax ID nu	mber
Contri Deterr Deterr Recor	buting Resource i mined Eligible for mined Ineligible fo ded by HABS/HAI ic Structure Repor	n National Register District n Local Historic District the National Register/Maryland r the National Register/Maryla ER rt or Research Report at MHT			
6. Classifica	ntion				
Category X_district building(s) structure site object	Ownershippublicprivate _X_both	Current Function agriculture _X_commerce/tradedefensedomesticeducationfunerary _X_governmenthealth careindustry	landscape recreation/culture religion social transportation work in progress unknown vacant/not in use other:		Noncontributing buildings sites structures objects Total ntributing Resources ted in the Inventory

7. Description	Inventory No.M:31-30
Condition	

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary:

excellent

_ good fair deteriorated

ruins

altered

Deliberate suburban development began in earnest in 1949 in the village known as Glenmont, Montgomery County as construction began in two developments, Glenmont Village and Glenmont Forest (M:31-20). Prior to that time, the area had been farmland with a scattering of suburban dwellings. In response to the new housing boom, civic and commercial structures soon followed. Between 1953 and 1963, the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department, the Glenmont Land and Development Corporation, the Montgomery County Police Department and three oil companies, American, Esso¹ and U.S. Petroleum, constructed gas, police and fire stations and a shopping center on the east side of Georgia Avenue at its intersection with Randolph Road. Already established was the Glenmont Elementary School (M:31-14) and two nearby churches, St. Andrews Lutheran and Glenmont United Methodist Churches. Construction of these community structures gave Glenmont a central locus which formed the civic and commercial core of Glenmont. Such development was typical for Montgomery County's suburban landscape following World War II.

Kensington-Glenmont Fire Station No. 18 – designed by Architect Ted Englehardt, the building is a large Colonial Revival wing-and-gable building. The gable portion contains a 2-bay garage which holds the pumper (or engine) and the hook and ladder (or basket) trucks. The upper portion of the gable has a three-part Palladian window. The wing section of the building contains the Captain's office, a locker room, and the station's operations office on the ground floor. The second floor is accessed from a central passage by a terrazzo tile and a metal handrail stairway. On the second floor are a kitchen, dining and living room, and sleeping quarters for 18 in 2 bunkrooms. The building has central heat and air conditioning, but these were added in 1998. The exterior of the building is of brick construction, and contains an exterior chimney and a clock tower, although the clock does not work.

Glenmont Shopping Center: The Glenmont Land and Development Corporation began construction of the Shopping Center in 1956. The maps and plats show a one story, twenty-space mall, including large spaces for a grocery and a drug store at the western end, with additional space for smaller shops and restaurants at the east end of the mall. In its original construction, each store had large plate glass display windows held in by tubular aluminum, known as an "open design," with a flat roof and a parapet extending above. The roof plane also extends over the front façade to form a flat canopy to shelter customers from the elements and allow comfortable movement from one store to the next. Metal posts support the canopy at the edge of the sidewalk. The builders angled the Center and placed the parking lot in front of the strip of stores in order to catch the eye of the shopper from Georgia Avenue. The parking area also has its own interior road system which allows ingress to the stores or egress to either Georgia Avenue or Randolph Road. One shopping area, the "Arcade," consists of eleven shop spaces for one-person businesses. This section of the Center is perpendicular to the main pile of stores. Within the Arcade, the various storefronts are angled panes of glass, terrazzo tile flooring, and concrete or brick supports. In the basement of the Arcade is a 24-lane bowling alley, Glenmont Bowling Alley. This portion of the Center retains its late 1950s signage, showing the words "Arcade" and "Bowling" in neon lights. The signage is supported on either individual blocks or by a rod on the canopy, which is higher than the other portions of the Center. The 1957 Sanborn Mapbook indicates that the shopping center contained the bowling alley, a dry cleaners, a hardware or paint store and a restaurant next to the arcade. By 1962, the shopping center included a hairstylist, barber shop, shoe service, insurance agency, the Glenmond Inn Restaurant, a Chinese restaurant, a hardware story, a savings and loan association, a High's Dairy Store, a glass and mirror store, a bicycle store, a People's Drug Store which housed the Post Office Station No. 7 and a Grand Union Supermarket. The Grand Union and the People's Drug appear to be constructed later than the Arcade area. The Grand Union Supermarket, which was part of a New Jersey grocery store chain, reflects the corporate model - an arched roof above a glass and brick façade on a concrete foundation. The main entrance is perpendicular to the store's front by a width of one bay. The chain closed in Washington metropolitan area in the mid-1970s. Magruders Supermarket took over, and constructed a mansard-type addition which obscures the barrel vault of the original store. In the early 1990s, the CVS chain acquired Peoples Drugstores, and that required an alteration of the store's front. During the same time, a portion of the Shopping Center was renovated. In the section next to the Arcade, the awning has been covered and incorporated into a gable roof system, and brick surrounded the metal posts. By extending the height of the wall above the awning, the shop owners acquired additional advertising space for their signs. The Shopping Center was extended in the late 1970s to form an "L" at the east end.

¹ Now known as Exxon.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:31-30

Name Glenmont Commercial and Civic District Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

The Montgomery County Police Station, 4th District: The architectural firm, Bagley, Soule & Associates of Chevy Chase designed the 4th District building in 1958, and construction was completed in 1959. The building has several additions, which reflect a change from the original Colonial Revival design. At the west end, the main pile is a cross-gable roof with one long wing extending west. A connector, which appears to have a flat roof and a parapet decorated with metal panels, connects the main pile with the hipped roof two-story addition. There is one outbuilding, a freestanding garage in the rear of the property. The exterior is laid in 5 course American bond brick and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. 8 over 12 windows are in the main portion of the building, while the addition has 12 over 12 windows. The front façade of the main pile has a multi-pane transom over new metal doors, quoins and dentils in the cornice of the roof.

The Glenmont Auto Center: U.S. Petroleum, an independent oil company, constructed the gas station in 1963. It has a concrete foundation and is constructed of cement block. The office portion of the building has canted open design windows which allow for a clear view into the interior. A wrap-around garage, which is one bay wide on the south side, contains two work bays on the west side. Ribbon windows of 6 lights each form a clerestory in the rear area of the garages. There are two pump islands, one in the south and the other in the east portion of the property. Yellow and red metal panels decorate the edge of the roof. There is one shed-roof addition in the rear of the building, and concrete parking areas surround the entire property.

Glenmont Amoco Service and Glenmont Exxon Service Stations: Both properties were constructed by 1957 by their respective corporate parents. However, since that time, each has been renovated and now reflects the current corporate image of each oil company. The Amoco station is a rectangular building with a 2-bay garage and an office/shop area. It is covered in brick, with a modified mansard roof which contains a gable addition holding the Amoco sign. This station demonstrates a change in Amoco's corporate thinking about station design during the 1960s. Many of the stations built in between 1932 and 1960 were white, and constructed of enameled steel panels. In the 1960s, as environmental concerns raised public awareness, the oil companies began to redesign the stations to make them fit with the surrounding residential areas. The old station contained an office, a storage area, rest rooms, and a 3-bay service garage. When the new station was built, the orientation of the office was changed from the northwest to the southeast, and rather than the distinctive white panels, the front façade is constructed of brick. Also, the service area became a 2-bay garage. The Exxon station also has garage bays and a shop-office area. The roof is cantilevered out and supported by two columns to provide shelter to customers as they fuel their vehicles.

8. Signific	ance			Inventory No.M:31-30
Period	Areas of Significance	Check and j	ustify below	
1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899 <u>X</u> 1900-1999 2000-	agriculture archeology architecture art Xcommerce communications community planning conservation	 economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement 	 health/medicine industry invention landscape architectur law literature maritime history military 	performing arts philosophy Xpolitics/government e religion science social history transportation other:
Specific dates	1953-1963		Architect/Builder Var	ious
Construction da	ates 1952-1963			
Evaluation for:	National Register	N	faryland Register	not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary:

Commercial and residential developers transformed the once rural area known as Glenmont beginning in 1949. At the time, these new houses were at the northern edge of suburban development which engulfed Montgomery County around Silver Spring and Wheaton. Residential development required the attendant civic and commercial structures, as well as new roads to ease the congestion. Between 1953 and 1963, the county government and private developers transformed the east side of Georgia Avenue by creating the Glenmont Shopping Center, several automobile service stations and the police and fire stations on the south side of Randolph Road.

The village of Glenmont in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries contained a few houses and small farms lining the Washington-Brookville Turnpike, as Georgia Avenue was then called. In the 1830s, the Maryland State Legislature charted many turnpikes, including the Washington-Brookville Turnpike for Allen Bowie Davis. However, it would be another twenty years before the turnpike opened following an act of the State Legislature in February 1850. The turnpike company found maintenance of the road to be difficult, and in 1913 the highway was sold to the Maryland State Roads Commission which promptly paved it. The area remained undeveloped until after World War II, when suburbanization began with the construction of the Glenmont subdivisions. In 1948, the State Roads Commission began planning to widen Georgia Avenue from the District line to Glenmont. The work was completed in 1952 which helped the development along the Georgia Avenue corridor.² For example, in 1955, the Wheaton Plaza opened with two department stores and a movie theatre on the Avenue. Its commercial success stimulated additional building ventures, including the Glenmont Shopping Center in 1956. At the same time the civic presence such as police and fire stations also became necessity, as the local population grew. Between 1949 and 1963, Glenmont became a small town on the new frontier of suburban development in Montgomery County, Maryland. As the new developments produced different land use patterns, the older road system restricted the placement of other features. In Glenmont, the police and fire stations face the road and present a unified governmental front on the south side of Randolph Road. However, the Glenmont Shopping Center and surrounding gasoline stations responded to the alignment of Layhill and Randolph Roads, as well as Georgia Avenue. These roads form an irregularly shaped polygon on which the Glenmont Land and Development Company built the shopping center.

Since Glenmont lacked a planned center, the shopping center, police and fire stations helped to form the central business district for the area. However, because the car was the primary mode of transportation, the gas station became the most represented commercial structure. By the 1920s, there was at least one station at the intersection of Georgia Avenue and Layhill Road. It was a dwelling and store with a gas pump, which was a typical combination for the time. Amoco built a second gas station on the northeast corner of Georgia and Randolph, which contained an office, a storage area and a 3-bay garage with two separate pump islands in the late 1940s.

² Kensington-Wheaton Guide, Volume IV, No. 14, November 1, 1952, page 1.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:31-30

Name Glenmont Commercial and Civic District Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

As the residential boom continued, the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department added a second station on the southeast corner of Georgia Avenue and Randolph Road. The building was opened on October 4, 1953 and cost \$100,000 to build. The Volunteer Fire Company raised the money from the local community by holding dinners, raffles and other events.³

With the success of shopping centers south of Glenmont in Wheaton, the Glenmont Land and Development Company began planning the shopping center. In order to attract driving public, the shopping center needed to be visible from the road. Thus its placement at the top of a small rise and at a slight angle to Georgia Avenue makes it visible from the intersection of Randolph Road and Georgia Avenue. The Center was not constructed in one building campaign, but as the developers were able to bring in new business. The first section to be constructed was the smaller Arcade with the Glenmont Bowling Alley in the basement of the building.

The bowling alley has twenty-four lanes and specializes in duckpin bowling. The alley is also named for Alphonse "Tuffy" Leeman, who played for the New York Giants in the 1930s and 1940s. Wilbert Robinson and John McGraw, owners of Diamond Alleys, Baltimore, started the duckpin form of bowling in 1900. Both the duckpins and the bowling ball are smaller than the regular tenpin equipment.⁴

The various service industries which opened in the arcade and surrounding Center, created a type of main street. By 1962, one could visit the barber, have shoes repaired, buy nails and mirrors, mail a letter, buy groceries, and be entertained at the bowling alley. What made the shopping center significant and more appealing to the new suburban shopper was the amount of parking. In sharp contrast to older commercial sites, the parking lot area contained enough spaces for 500 cars, which would accommodate all of the new residents from the Glenmont Village.

As a result of the population growth in the Wheaton-Glenmont area, the County built a new police station on Randolph Road, next to the fire station in 1959. The new station served a population of 65,000 citizens in a 93-square mile district. Fifty-two officers, four desk clerks, and three committing magistrates worked in the building, which also included a large classroom and a four-stall pistol range. In sharp contrast to the commercial modernism of the shopping center, both the police and fire stations are examples of governmental colonial revival. The county's presence provided necessary services for the citizens, in addition to schools and libraries, and the buildings' architectural forms presented a solid and knowable identity.

In 1963, the U.S. Petroleum company purchased a lot from the Glenmont Land and Development Company in order to construct a gas station on Randolph Road. The new station located at the eastern end of the shopping center indicates the continued growth of the area along Randolph Road. Because this was an independent dealer, the station design departed from the earlier white enameled panels like the old Amoco station, and instead incorporated elements from food establishments. The cement blocks are painted

³ Kensington Volunteer Fire Department, "History," <u>www.kvfd.org/History/history.html</u>, 09/24/2001, pages 1-2.

⁴ Tuffy's Finest: Glenmont Lanes, "Tuffy's Finest," www.geocities.com/joe_mollica, 10/02/2011, page 1; and Stan Kellum, "Stan's History of Duckpin Bowling," www.quis.net/~duckpins/, 09/28/2001, pages 1-3

⁵ Montgomery County Department of Police, "Wheaton District, Welcome to 4th District – Wheaton," www.co.mo.us/services/police/districts/wheaton, 09/28/2001, pages 1-2

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:31-30

Name Glenmont Commercial and Civic District **Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 2

yellow, and the trim on the cornice of the roof is constructed of red and yellow metal panels, and the windows are canted. Like the Arcade in the Shopping Center, the Glenmont Auto Service station is an example of early 1960s roadside architecture.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. *M:31-30*

See continuation sheet Item #9

10. Geographical Data			
	25		
Acreage of historical setting Quadrangle name	Kensington	Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000	

Verbal boundary description and justification

Those properties located Montgomery County Tax Map JQ13, Parcels N435, N436, N440, N441, N481, N482, N483, N566, N590, N591, N598, N599, N600, N644, N646, and N697, near the intersection of Georgia Avenue and Randolph Road, Glenmont Vicinity, Silver Spring.

11. Form Prepared by	
name/title ANNE E. FORUME	
organization MARUAN STATESTICH WAS ADMIN	date (01,9,200)
street & number 707 N. GOVER ST.	telephone 410-545-8559
city or town Palithore LMD	state

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust DHCD/DHCP 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032-2023 410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:31:30

Name Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

Item #3: Property Owners: Glenmont Shopping Center, Glenmont Auto Service, Glenmont Amoco, Glenmont Exxon, Montgomery County Police Department 4th District Station, Kensington-Glenmont Volunteer Fire Station No. 18

Item #9: Bibliography

- Atlas of 15 Miles around Washington, including the County of Montgomery, Maryland, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: G. M. Hopkins, C.E., 1879 (reprint 1975 Montgomery County Historical Society)
- Cavicchi, Clare Lise, "Places from the Past: The Tradition of 'Gardez Bien' in Montgomery County, Maryland," Silver Spring, Maryland: Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 2001
- Dimopoulos, Captain James, Kensington-Glenmont Fire Station No. 18, personal communication with Anne E. Bruder, September 24, 2001
- Hiebert, Ray Eldon and Richard K. MacMaster, A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland, Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government, 1976
- "How Ranch Style is Taking Over Service Station Design," National Petroleum News 58 (May 1966):95-101
- Jackson, Mike, "'Storefronts of Tomorrow': American Storefront Design from 1940 to 1970," *Preserving the Recent Past 2*, Editors: Deborah Slaton and William G. Foulks, Washington, DC: Historic Preservation Education Foundation, (October 2000) 2-57
- KCI Technologies, Suburbanization Historic Context and Survey Methodology, I-495/I-95 Capital Beltway Corridor Transportation Study, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, MD, prepared for Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration, May 2000
- Kellum, Stan, "Stan's History of Duckpin Bowling," www.quis.net/~duckpins/, 09/28/2001, pages 1-3
- Kensington Volunteer Fire Department, "History," <u>www.kvfd.org/History/history.html</u>, Kensington, Montgomery County, Maryland, 09/24/2001, pages 1-2.
- Kensington-Wheaton Guide, Volume IV, No. 14, November 1, 1952

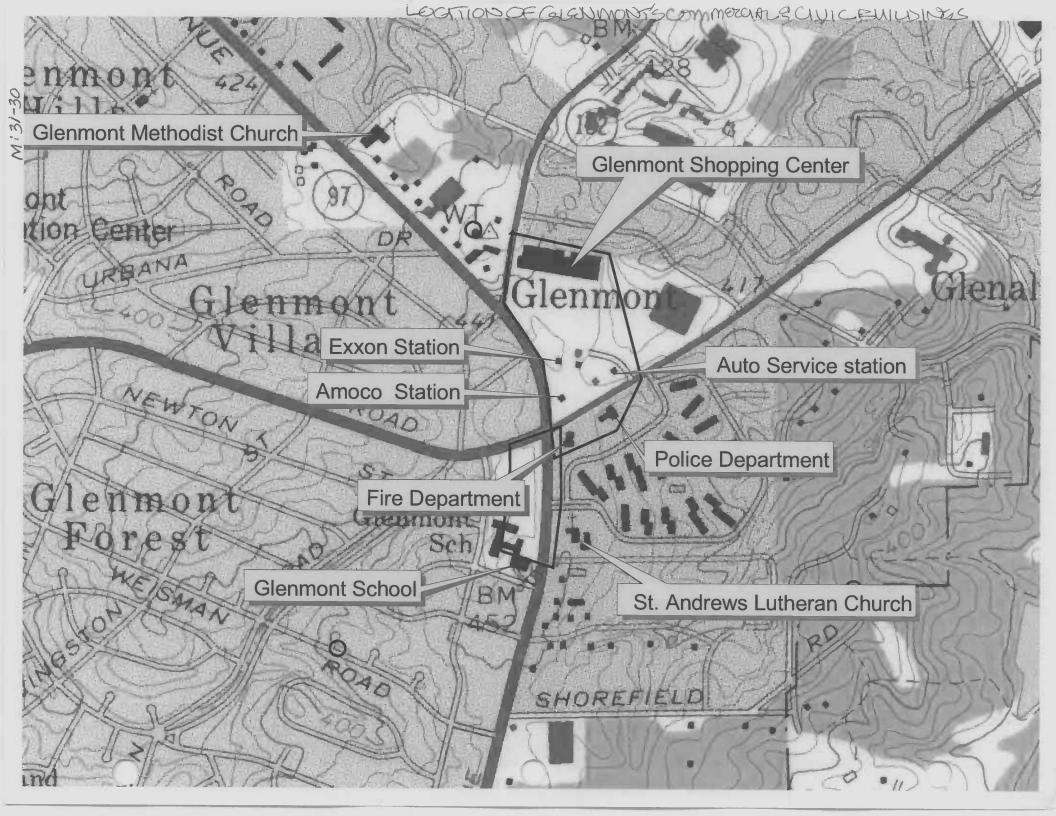
Inventory No. M:31:30

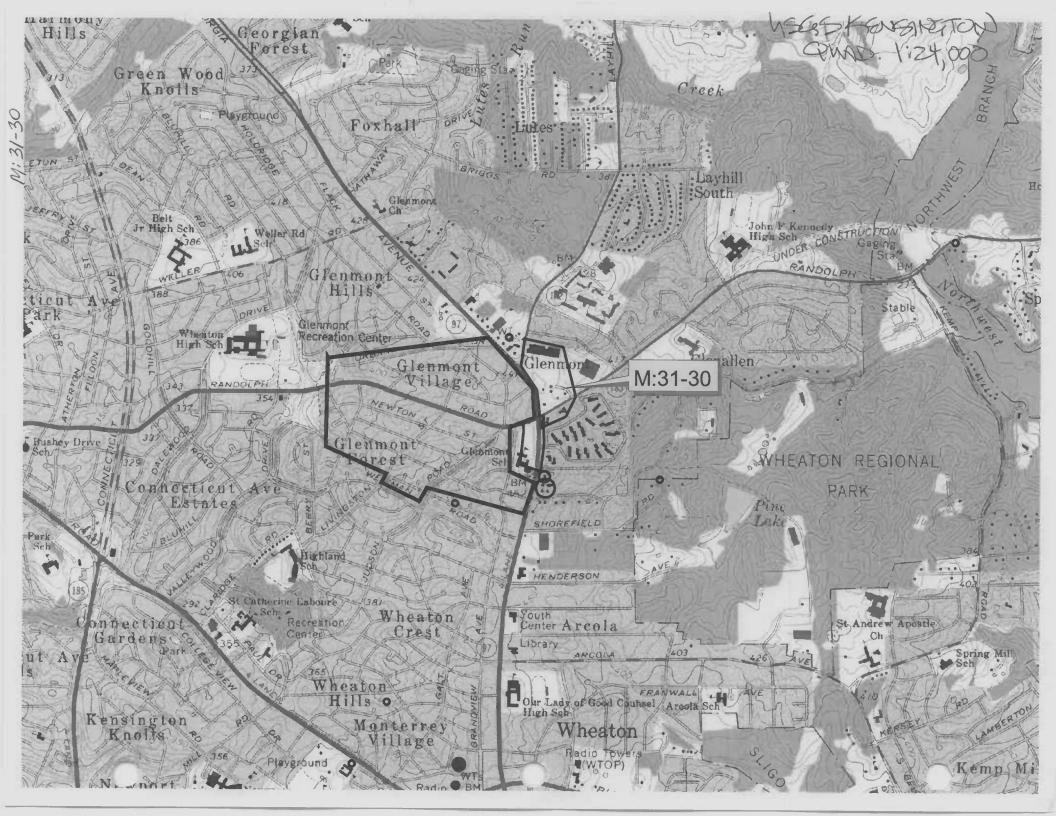
Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 2

- Liebs, Chester H., *Main Street to Miracle Mile*, Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995
- Maryland State Roads Commission, Contract #M435-006-315, plans on file "George Ave. Extended Viers Mill Road to Glenmont" State Highway Administration, Baltimore, Maryland, September 1952
- Montgomery County Department of Police, "Wheaton District, Welcome to 4th District Wheaton," www.co.mo.us/services/police/districts/wheaton, Rockville, Montgomery County, Maryland, 09/28/2001, pages 1-2
- Polk's Silver Spring Bethesda Chevy Chase Kensington Takoma Park Wheaton City Directory, Richmond, Virginia: R. L. Polk & Company Publishing, 1962
- Rebeck, Andrea, "Montgomery County in the Early Twentieth Century A Study of Historical and Architectural Themes," Silver Spring, Maryland: Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission and the Maryland Historical Trust, 1987
- Sanborn Map Company, Washington Suburban Maryland, Volume 3, New York, New York, May 1957
- Tuffy's Finest: Glenmont Lanes, "Tuffy's Finest," <u>www.geocities.com/joe_mollica</u>, Glenmont, Montgomery County, Maryland, 10/02/2011, page 1







M31-30 FORMER GRANDMINON, 12331 GROEGTA AVE, GLENNMONST COMMISCIVIC METRICA SIEVER SPRING, MD. HUSE FEWER. SET. 700 MESHED GIENMONT SHOPPING CENTER-FACILY DETREAST.



M:31-30 GLEWMONT SHOPPING CENTER, GEORGIAAE, GLEVINDUT GOVIM-20 WICDISTRICT SILVER SPRING MD Quine Powder leptiza WOSHR Reamont Shopping Center facing worthwards

AIRICIAIDIE

EN & NOW D FURNITURE

MED CRABS

"TUFFY" LEEMANS DUCKPIN LANES

· 12345 GEORG A A

GLENMO BARBERS & HA

SH IT

M331-30 Hermond Hoppin Center Circodes School Spring MID anne Pridice. Sept. 780 MD SARO Grædenentrance signages færing worth



Slevnord Shopping Center accord Georgia Guel Received Spring, MM CHIE Pudi. Sept 700 grade sentrancistaris Malli



11:31-30 Lanword auto Lervice, 220 Randolphild und Pure Pour CPX 2001 MD SHED US Retrolyun gas station and g South facules.



W: 30-30 Elen Mont Ceuts Service, 2301 Candolph Selver Spring, Min. Quine Guden. Sept 700 Middle Co Dund west facades



MB31-30 montoners Co. Police Station 2200 Raydolph Rd. Schern Spige, MD aura Porce LEDY 200/ 10 8/10 Man, outrance enrich facale



M1231-30 Montgonere Co Police, Lation 250 Pavelolph Rd. Selver Spry, mo Cynne And Sept 7801 MD Stypo 4th Distud Station, north facade



M-31-30 Kensenton Fre Station 1/0,18 17250 Teorgia ales elever Spring MA anno, Prudento MD SARO Lego Zoo) Station garage, north facade



11/23-20 Kensuston Fine Halson 1015 1225/ Leonora alex Silver Spring IMD Quirer sual. SUDY. 2007 MM SKA Rear of station with clock town (south facede)



M:20-100 Kensueton Free Station No 18 17250 Deorgalierne Selecu Spring, MD Gine man Sept 2007 MM 55/80 Captains office (Cooling cars)